



October 23, 2015

Senator Mitch McConnell  
Senate Majority Leader  
317 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Senator Harry Reid  
Senate Democratic Leader  
522 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Majority Leader McConnell and Democratic Leader Reid:

We write to you today to express our utmost support for the nomination of Roberta Jacobson to be the next U.S. Ambassador to Mexico. As you know, in June, President Obama nominated Ms. Jacobson to this vitally important post, one she is superbly suited for.

Ms. Jacobson currently serves as the State Department's Assistant Secretary for Western Hemisphere Affairs and has served in this role admirably. She is a career civil service officer with extensive experience in Western Hemisphere and Mexican affairs. She also speaks fluent Spanish.

In addition to her current position as Assistant Secretary, Ms. Jacobson has an impressive array of work experience dedicated to the Western Hemisphere and Mexico. She previously served as the Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for Western Hemisphere Affairs; senior coordinator for the Citizen Security initiatives in the Western Hemisphere; Deputy Assistant Secretary for Canada, Mexico and NAFTA issues; Director of the Office of Mexican Affairs; Deputy Chief of Mission at the U.S. Embassy in Lima, Peru; Director of the Office of Policy Planning and Coordination in the Bureau of Western Hemisphere Affairs; and previously served at the National Security Council. Her resume goes on and on expounding her remarkable credentials for this position. In addition to these important roles, she holds a Master's of Arts in Law and Diplomacy and worked for the United Nations in the Center for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs.

It is vital that we have a solid leader with a background such as hers as our nation's ambassador to Mexico. The U.S. and Mexico share a 2,000-mile border, and the relations between our two nations have a drastic impact on millions of Americans. One million American citizens live in Mexico and Mexico is the top tourist destination for Americans, with over 20 million visiting the country in 2013. Mexico is our nation's second largest export market and third largest trading partner. In 2014 two-way trade in goods and services was more than \$550 billion. That's nearly \$1.4 billion of two-way trade between our two nations every day. In addition to this, there are other important issues to solve for which an ambassador of Ms. Jacobson's caliber will be vitally important such as finding approaches to combat transnational organized crime, enhance law enforcement cooperation, and stem the flow of illicit money, drugs, people, and arms across our borders.

We ask that you do not delay in bringing up Ms. Jacobson's nomination for consideration on the Senate floor. This is too important a position to allow a hold on the nomination, and it deserves consideration before the whole Senate.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

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CC: Senator Bob Corker  
Senator Marco Rubio  
Senator Robert Menendez  
Senator Ted Cruz